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of employment. The size and frequency of installment deductions will bear a reasonable relation to the size of the debt and the employee's ability to pay. However, the amount deducted from any pay period will not exceed 15 percent of the employee's disposable pay for that period, unless the employee has agreed in writing to the deduction of a greater amount.

(3) A deduction exceeding the 15-percent disposable pay limitation may be made from any final salary payment pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3716 in order to liquidate the debt, whether the employee is being separated voluntarily or involuntarily.

(4) Whenever an employee subject to salary offset is separated from the Corporation and the balance of the debt cannot be liquidated by offset of the final salary check pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3716, the Corporation may offset any later payments of any kind against the balance of the debt.

(d) In instances where two or more creditor agencies are seeking salary offsets against current employees of the Corporation or where two or more debts are owed to a single creditor agency, the Corporation, at its discretion, may determine whether one or more debts should be offset simultaneously within the 15-percent limitation. Debts owed to the Corporation should generally take precedence over debts owed to other agencies.

§ 1408.40 Refunds.

(a) In instances where the Corporation is the creditor agency, it shall promptly refund any amounts deducted under the authority of 5 U.S.C. 5514 when:

(1) The debt is waived or otherwise found not to be owed to the United States (unless expressly prohibited by statute or regulations); or

(2) An administrative or judicial order directs the Corporation to make a refund.

(b) Unless required or permitted by law or contract, refunds under this section shall not bear interest.

§ 1408.41 Requesting current paying agency to offset salary.

(a) To request a paying agency to impose a salary offset against amounts

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owed to the debtor, the Corporation shall provide the paying agency with a claim certification which meets the requirements set forth in §1408.25(a) of this part. The Corporation shall also provide the paying agency with a repayment schedule determined under the provisions of §1408.39 or in accordance with a repayment agreement entered into with the debtor.

(b) If the employee separates from the paying agency before the debt is paid in full, the paying agency shall certify the total amount collected on the debt. A copy of this certification shall be sent to the employee and a copy shall be sent to the Corporation. If the paying agency is aware that the employee is entitled to payments from the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund, or other similar payments, it must provide written notification to the agency responsible for making such payments that the debtor owes a debt (including the amount) and that the provisions of this section have been fully complied with. However, the Corporation must submit a properly certified claim to the agency responsible for making such payments before the collection can be made.

(c) When an employee transfers to another paying agency, the Corporation is not required to repeat the due process procedures set forth in 5 U.S.C. 5514 and this part to resume the collection. The Corporation shall, however, review the debt upon receiving the former paying agency's notice of the employee's transfer to make sure the collection is resumed by the new paying agency.

(d) If a special review is conducted pursuant to §1408.11 and results in a revised offset or repayment schedule, the Corporation shall provide a new claim certification to the paying agency.

§ 1408.42 Responsibility of the Corporation as the paying agency.

(a) When the Corporation receives a claim certification from a creditor agency, deductions should be scheduled to begin at the next officially established pay interval. The Corporation shall send the debtor written notice which provides:

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(1) That the Corporation has received a valid claim certification from the creditor agency;

(2) The date on which salary offset will begin;

(3) The amount of the debt; and

(4) The amount of such deductions.

(b) If, after the creditor agency has submitted the claim certification to the Corporation, the employee transfers to a different agency before the debt is collected in full, the Corporation must certify the total amount collected on the debt. The Corporation shall send a copy of this certification to the creditor agency and a copy to the employee. If the Corporation is aware that the employee is entitled to payments from the Civil Service Retirement Fund and Disability Fund, or other similar payments, it shall provide written notification to the agency responsible for making such payments that the debtor owes a debt (including the amount).

§ 1408.43 Nonwaiver of rights by payments.

An employee's involuntary payment of all or any portion of a debt being collected under this subpart shall not be construed as a waiver of any rights the employee may have under 5 U.S.C. 5514 or any other provisions of a written contract or law unless there are statutory or contractual provisions to the contrary.

PART 1410—PREMIUMS

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§ 1410.1 Purpose and scope.

This part sets forth the rules for:

(a) The calculation of premiums;

(b) The time for payment of the premium required by sections 5.55 and 5.56

of the Farm Credit Act of 1971, as amended;

(c) Interest charges on delinquent payments;

(d) The form and content of certified statements; and,

(e) Documentation supporting certified statements.

§ 1410.2 Definitions.

(a) *Act* means the Farm Credit Act of 1971, as amended.

(b) *Average principal outstanding* means:

(1) For calendar year 1989, the average annual principal outstanding using balances as of monthend for each of the 13 months beginning with December 1988 and ending with December 1989;

(2) For calendar year 1990 and thereafter, the average annual principal outstanding on a daily basis using balances as of the close of each day. In computing the average annual principal outstanding in this manner, the closing balance of the most recent past business day shall be the closing balance for days when an institution is closed.

(c) *Direct lending association* means any production credit association or any other association making direct loans under authority provided under section 7.6 of the Act, including, without limitation, agricultural credit associations and Federal land credit associations.

(d) *Government-guaranteed loans* means loans or credits, or portions of loans or credits, that are guaranteed:

(1) By the full faith and credit of the United States Government or any State government; or,

(2) By an agency or other entity of the United States Government whose obligations are explicitly guaranteed by the United States Government; or,

(3) By an agency or other entity of a State government whose obligations are explicitly guaranteed by such State government.

(e) *Insured bank* means any Farm Credit bank whose participation in notes, bonds, debentures, and other obligations issued under subsection (c) or (d) of section 4.2 of the Act is insured